

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chairman Jeff Essmann, on April 6, 2009 at
8:00 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jeff Essmann, Chairman (R)
Sen. Taylor Brown, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)
Sen. Gary Branae (D)
Sen. Ron Erickson (D)
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Bruce Tutvedt (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Kim Gillan (D)
Sen. Bob Story Jr. (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lee Heiman, Legislative Branch
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 312, 3/27/2009; HB 631,
4/1/2009; HB 657, 4/1/2009

Executive Action: NONE

00:00:42 Vice Chair Brown took the position as Chairman

HEARING ON HB 657

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:01 Rep. Wayne Stahl (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on
HB 657, Study taxation of oil and natural gas property.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:33 Dave Galt, Executive Director, Montana Petroleum
Association (MPA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:03:20 Gene Walborn, Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:03:46 Sen. Tutvedt
00:04:10 Rep. Stahl
00:05:52 Sen. Black
00:06:20 Rep. Stahl
00:07:46 Sen. Erickson
00:08:03 Rep. Stahl

Closing by Sponsor:

00:08:21 Rep. Stahl

HEARING ON HB 312

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:09:20 Rep. Bill Beck (R), HD 6, opened the hearing on HB 312,
Increase population requirement for resort tax
purposes.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:13:31 Chuck Stearns, City Manager, City of Whitefish
EXHIBIT (tas75a01)

00:17:25 Mona Jamison, Attorney, representing Big Sky Resort
Area District (BSRAD)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:21:52 Andy Poole, Deputy Director, Department of Commerce
(COM)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:22:14 Sen. Tutvedt
00:22:35 Mona Jamison, BSRAD
00:26:42 Sen. Kaufmann
00:27:03 Andy Poole, COM
00:27:46 Sen. Erickson
00:28:11 Rep. Beck
00:29:20 Sen. Black
00:30:01 Rep. Beck
00:30:11 Mona Jamison
00:32:16 Sen. Black
00:32:42 Rep. Beck
00:34:31 Sen. Hamlett
00:34:51 Mona Jamison
00:38:24 Sen. Hamlett
00:39:14 Chuck Stearns, Whitefish

Additional Proponent Testimony:

00:42:11 Ryan Zinke, SD 2

Closing by Sponsor:

00:45:51 Rep. Beck

HEARING ON HB 631

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:47:31 Rep. Anders Blewett (D), HD 21, opened the hearing on
HB 631, Revise credit for preservation of historic
buildings and transfer of credit.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:51:43 Nick Kujawa, Kujawa Development, Butte
[EXHIBIT\(tas75a02\)](#)
[EXHIBIT\(tas75a03\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony: (Con't)

00:56:53 Chere Jiusto, Executive Director, Montana Preservation Alliance (MPA)

EXHIBIT (tas75a04)

EXHIBIT (tas75a05)

01:02:11 Bob Ebinger, HD 62

01:04:01 Karen Byrnes, Community Development Director, Butte-Silver Bow

01:06:21 Kate Hampton, representing National Trust for Historic Preservation

EXHIBIT (tas75a06)

01:09:10 Jim McHugh, Executive Director, Downtown Helena Business Improvement District, also speaking for the cities of Missoula, Helena and Great Falls

01:10:03 Frank Crowley, Attorney, Helena, speaking as co-owner of Diamond Block located in downtown Helena

01:13:59 Jim Smitham, Executive Director, Butte Local Economic Development Corporation, also speaking for Montana Economic Developers Association

EXHIBIT (tas75a07)

01:16:20 Steve Turkiewicz, President, Montana Bankers Association (MBA)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:17:05 Amy Carlson, Assistant Budget Director, Budget and Program Planning, Office of the Governor (BPP)

Informational Testimony:

01:17:54 Pete Brown, Historic Architecture Specialist, State Historic Preservation Office, Montana Historical Society (MHS)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:18:43 Sen. Kaufmann

01:19:12 Amy Carlson, BPP

01:20:29 Sen. Kaufmann

01:20:47 Chere Jiusto, MPA

01:25:29 Sen. Hamlett

01:26:22 Amy Carlson

01:28:35 Sen. Hamlett

01:29:16 Rep. Blewett

01:32:19 Vice Chair Brown

01:32:40 Steve Turkiewicz, MBA

01:34:05 Vice Chair Brown

01:34:16 Frank Crowley, Helena

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: (Con't)

01:38:36 Sen. Tutvedt
01:39:12 Frank Crowley
01:39:55 Nick Kujawa, Butte
01:42:17 Sen. Tutvedt
01:43:04 Nick Kujawa
01:45:00 Sen. Hamlett
01:45:22 Karen Byrnes, Butte-Silver Bow
01:47:18 Sen. Kaufmann
01:47:33 Pete Brown, MHS
01:48:18 Sen. Tutvedt
01:48:26 Pete Brown
01:48:50 Sen. Kaufmann
01:48:57 Pete Brown
01:49:31 Sen. Hamlett
01:49:41 Frank Crowley
01:51:32 Nick Kujawa

Closing by Sponsor:

01:52:25 Rep. Anders Blewett

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:00 A.M.

Debra Polhemus, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([tas75aad.pdf](#))